

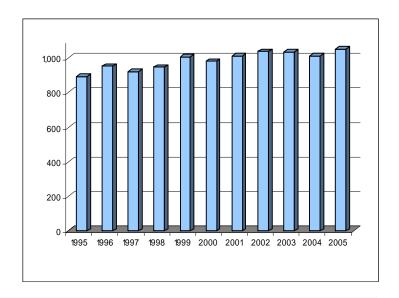
## CAMAS COUNTY PROFILE

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June 2006

## **Population**

Camas County population grew in 2005 following a slight dip in 2004. The population has increased 3.6 percent over 2004 and an 18 percent over the past 10 years. Camas County is the most sparsely populated county in Idaho, but contains some of the most beautiful and rugged scenery. Recreational opportunities abound in Camas County including fishing, hunting, skiing, and camping. Fairfield, the county seat, lies in the gateway area of the rugged Soldier Mountain area. The distance from centers of population have kept numbers of residents low, but the outlook for the next decade is continued, steady growth.

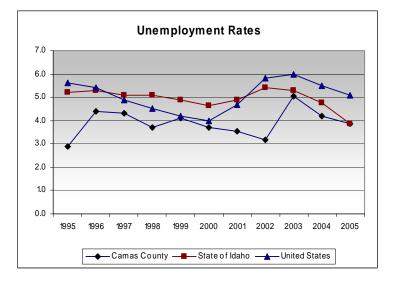


## **Labor Force & Employment**

Seasonally adjusted unemployment levels in Camas County have been fluctuated over the last decade. During the last 10 years the unemployment rate has fluctuated from a low of 2.9 percent in 1995 to a high of 5 per cent in 2003. By 2005 the rate had dropped to 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate in small counties can be significantly affected when a any change in the labor force status occurs.

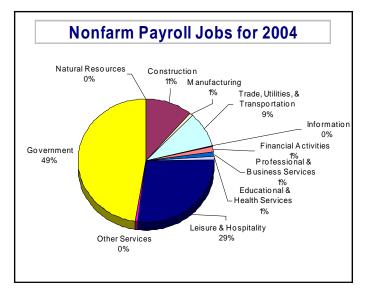
Most workers in Camas County are either in *Government-Education* or *Trade*. The unemployment rates tends to fluctuate because the *Civilian Labor Force* is so small and minor changes translate into large percentage changes. Workers tend to be employed in the school district, Camas County government, or in small retail stores and restaurants. In the winter, Soldier Mountain Ski Resort employs a number of people and there is quite a bit of

Labor Force	May 2005	May 2006
Civilian Labor Force	608	623
Total Employment	585	605
Unemployed	23	18
Camas County % Unemployed	3.9	2.9
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.4
U.S. % Unemployed	5.1	4.7



seasonal employment, especially in the fall during hunting season. Camas County also has significant farm labor; crops are typically hay, wheat, and barley. There is some significant ranching done on the Camas Prairie with beef cattle and also some sheep herding. The local economy has diversified into some *Retail* and *Services* related jobs. The outlook for the Camas Prairie remains steady, and it is expected some job growth will occur.

Labor Force	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	449	451	439	410	412	537	564	579	573	603	614
Unemployment	13	20	19	15	17	20	20	19	29	25	24
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.9	4.4	4.3	3.7	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.2	5.0	4.2	3.9
Employment	436	431	420	395	395	517	544	561	544	578	591



## Wages & Income

Per capita income in Camas County has grown by 46 percent in the last decade from \$17,244 to \$25,090. Camas County remains lower than both the state and national average in per capita income, although it has grown steadily. Camas County ranks 12th out of Idaho's 44 counties in per capita income growth.

Major Employers							
Camas County							
Camas County School District							
U.S. Department of Agriculture							

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage
Elem entary Teachers	\$16.17
Secondary Teachers	\$16.30
Teachers Aides	\$9.62
Bookkeepers	\$10.84
Cashiers	\$7.28
Construction labor	\$13.52
Landscapers	\$9.22

<sup>\*</sup> Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Commerce & Labor website at <a href="cl.idaho.gov/lmi.">cl.idaho.gov/lmi.</a>

Covered Employment & Average Annual	1994		2003	3	2004		
Wages Per Job for 1994, 2003, & 2004	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	
	Employment	Wages	<b>Employment</b>	Wages	Employment	Wages	
Total Covered Wages	250	\$13,291	290	\$19,261	299	\$20,482	
Agriculture	7	\$25,763	24	\$34,202	29	\$28,428	
Mining	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	
Construction	4	\$18,632	36	\$27,848	32	\$29,318	
Manufacturing	*	*	1	\$8,300	2	\$12,215	
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	31	\$14,981	19	\$12,812	26	\$23,880	
Information	0	\$0	*	*	*	*	
Financial Activities	*	*	4	\$16,475	*	*	
Professional and Business Services	2	\$9,866	6	\$26,164	3	\$35,030	
Educational and Health Services	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Leisure and Hospitality	96	\$6,047	78	\$7,041	78	\$8,013	
Other Services	*	*	0	\$0	*	*	
Government	102	\$19,203	117	\$22,686	121	\$23,491	

Per Capita Income	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Camas County	\$17,244	\$16,889	\$20,260	\$21,381	\$20,293	\$21,314	\$22,617	\$23,741	\$22,823	\$25,090
State of Idaho	\$18,707	\$19,426	\$20,248	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,075	\$25,185	\$25,330	\$26,877
United States	\$22,172	\$23,076	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472
Information provided by the Idaho Department of Commerce.										



This county is served by the office listed below: Idaho Commerce & Labor 513 N. Main Street, Suite 1 Hailey, ID 83333-8417 Ph: (208) 788-3526

